

NOVEMBER 1949

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DEAN MARTIN



JIMMY WAKELY



WOODY HERMAN



JAN GARBER



SUGAR CHILE ROBINSON



DAVE DEXTER'S

SURFACE NOISE



MEMO: To Amateur Songwriters . . .

FROM: Record Companies, Song Publishers,
Bandleaders, Vocalists.

Please don't send us your songs!

They come in by the hundreds, every day, every week, every month. Invariably they are accompanied by long, rambling letters pointing out that the songs are "specially written," that they are "better than the tunes on the Hit Parade" and that—if given just this one break—the writer can thus take his deserved place among the Warrens, Mercers, etc., etc.

"All my friends," virtually every letter boldly states, "say my songs are wonderful."

If they said they were lousy, or average, they wouldn't be friends.

There are honest and valid reasons why an amateur's songs have no chance. Why should a publisher accept an unknown ditty by an unknown writer when he has his choice of hundreds of new tunes which will be featured in million-dollar motion pictures, or Broadway shows, or by big name bands and singers? Why risk a suit charging that a tune submitted 17 years ago last Halloween sounds "just like Lucky Old Sun?"

Of course the "big" publisher, or "big" record company, may be passing up a sure Hit Parade topper in returning your envelope unopened. But the odds are something like 20,000 to 1 that the next hit will be composed by a known songwriter.

All of which leaves the amateur with two alternatives—and only two.

1.—Keep your songs. Try to get them performed in your home territory by radio stations, hotel bands, ballroom musicians, cocktail combos. If a tune attracts attention, no matter what the town or state, the "big" publishers will be aware of it. And if you can get your song started they'll all flock to you to obtain the publishing rights. Or . . .

2.—Leave home. Go to New York (only New York—all the major publishers are there. Even the Hollywood and Chicago pubs are mere sub-branches of the mighty New York headquarters) and prepare to starve. You'll have to call on the pubs every day, dozens of them, and learn to know the people who are in a position to do something with your compositions. If your songs are good, it may take six months or six years. If your songs are poor you'll get no action in 99 years.

That's the way it is. Either you devote full time or none. Mailing your songs out is a swell way to waste postage. Paying some shark outfit cash to "publish" your works is sheer stupidity. No legitimate publisher ever demands money; they pay money to the writers.

If it's really fame and fortune you want, get into politics. It's easier, as Jim McHugh or Irving Berlin or some bigshot writer once commented, to become a Vice-President than a member of ASCAP!



JIMMIE DAVIS, former governor of Louisiana, is proving a big success as a singer and leader of the "Sunshine" band on Capitol discs. He's been in Hollywood this fall making records and movies. And on one-night stands he jams 'em in.

SPOT NEWS

Stan Kenton Returns—Page 3.

Charlie Barnet Quits—Page 13.

Why Buddy Clark Died—Page 4.

Peggy Lee Making a Movie—
Page 6.

Max Steiner Will Record—Page 7.

Vaughn Monroe Faces Cameras—
Page 12.

40 In New Stan Kenton Ork

He's Back—And Rarin' To Go!

Stan Kenton's long-awaited and hotly debated return to music is already an actuality. He's now being booked for a grinding concert tour of 75 dates, he will definitely feature 40 musicians and June Christy, and he's toiling night and day right now composing new music which his new orchestra will perform.

Gone will be the "Artistry in Rhythm" and "Progressive Jazz" taglines which his previous bands popularized.

"I have given long and careful consideration to this new undertaking," Kenton said in late October, "and I've dropped whatever plans I once had to study psychiatry. My future lies in music."

To Be 'Innovations'

All of which confirms the Capitol News' exclusive story of last July, a news beat which a dozen national mags took great pains to belittle. At that time, Kenton for several reasons was unable to confirm the story of his return this fall. But he never denied it.

"Innovations in Music" is the new phrase Stan has conceived for his big new orchestra, which will feature a full string section and several instruments—woodwinds—which he's never used before. First rehearsals will get under way in Hollywood in early November.

Carlos Vydal Joining

Capitol will record a complete album of the "Innovations" music, an album which will be released in January. Immediately after the album is marketed, Kenton and his troupe will swing into the first of the 75 concert dates at the Russ Auditorium in San Diego.



BACK AGAIN as a bandleader, Stan Kenton hauls out his road maps again as he plots a concert tour with his forthcoming 40-piece "Innovations" orchestra. Rehearsals start early this month. Gene Howard, who again will publicize Kenton, shot this new portrait a few days after Kenton confirmed his plans—the same plans the Cap News published as far back as July.

From the Pacific coast the band will move east, across the Middle-west, down below the Mason-Dixon line, across the Atlantic seaboard and up into New England.

Several of the musicians formerly featured with the big Kansas will return to the fold, as will Stan's blonde piper, June Christy. Carlos Vydal, bongo and conga drum star of the disbanded Charlie Barnet crew, also is expected to join.

Kenton hopes to spend at least half of every year, in the future, writing new music and judging other new works submitted to him by talented young writers. The best of this, he says, will then be orchestrated and rehearsed for a national tour. Thus "Innovations in Music—1950" will become "Innovations in Music—1951" and so on, every year.

Stan's concerts are not being booked by the agency which formerly handled him, GAC. He has set up his own booking combo.

"I want to try something different," Kenton said. "We went as far as possible with the other band. The new unit will, as you printed last summer, be more diversified, and it should appeal to a much more vast number of listeners. We may even feature some outstanding guest soloists on the tour, someone we believe the world should hear."

A special stage setting for the concerts, unlike anything ever used by a band previously, will be carried by Stan.

Pete Rugolo, who has been free-lancing since Kenton broke up his previous group last December, has returned as chief of Stan's arranging staff.



AT A FORMAL inquest held in Los Angeles Oct. 11, Buddy Clark's death in the crash of a private airplane on a Los Angeles street was attributed to the lack of about \$6.50 worth of gasoline in the tanks of a chartered Cessna twin-engined monoplane.

The singer, returning with five others to Los Angeles from the Stanford-Michigan football game at Palo Alto in ideal weather, died an hour after the accident. The others weren't hurt seriously.

Clark, whose age was given as both 44 and 38, and whose real name was Sam Goldberg, was buried at Forest Lawn's Everlasting Love section of Memorial Park in Glendale. Pallbearers were Frank Sinatra, Clark Dennis, Walter Lantz, Tom Cooney, Mann Holiner, Abe Samuels, Mickey Rockford and Jesse Stool.

Clark's "Contented" program, now on CBS, has been featuring guest singers since his death.

The largest orchestra ever employed by Republic Studios for a film, 108 musicians, recorded under Victor Young's direction the soundtrack of "Sands of Iwo Jima." John Wayne is the star.

Dizzy Gillespie dickering to make records for the Capitol label. If the deal goes through, trumpeter will overhaul the style of his band completely.

England's Gertrude Lawrence, after 41 years in show biz, is in Hollywood making a pic. She'll play the mother of Kirk Douglas and Jane Wyman in "The Glass Menagerie."

Skitch Henderson's band did not open at the L. A. Coconut Grove Oct. 4, as last month's Cap News reported. Sudden change in bookings put Eddie Fitzpatrick's ork on the stand with Dick Haymes headlined. The mixup resulted when Haymes was rushed in to sub for Carmen Miranda, who was ill.

New babies arrived in October at the Joe Graydons, the Dave Cavanaughs, the Alan Livingstons and Allan Copelands, all in Los Angeles. All are sons except the 7-pound daughter born to the Copelands.

Remember Ronnie Kemper, long featured with the old Dick Jurgens band as vocalist? He's doing his own show now over KLAC-TV in L. A.

Pete Daily's Chicagoans were featured all week, in mid-October, on the UCLA campus as they rode around in a big wagon celebrating the Bruins' homecoming. But the band stills plays nightly at Hollywood & Vine at the Monkey Room.

Reports from N. Y. confirm the cheering news that Mildred Bailey is fast recovering from an illness which, for several weeks, had her on the critical list.

Nellie Lutcher moves into New York's Cafe Society, in the Village, from Nov. 3 through Nov. 22.

And Nat Cole and Woody Herman, with their musicians, will team up Nov. 2 for a concert at Boston's Symphony Hall. On Nov. 3 they'll ditto at the Academy of Music in Philadelphia. Then they'll continue on 33 more concerts together, running well into December, and exclusively in the east and Middlewest.



THANKSGIVING comes but once a year. And this year, Janis Paige is ready. Back from a long stay in Italy, the former band canary is now free-lancing as a film star after a long association with Warner Brothers.

Red Ingle Due In California

Red Ingle and his Natural Seven are coming back to California after more than a year in and around New York.

The zany fiddler and singer just signed to appear at the Casbah Club in Los Angeles for five weeks beginning Nov. 22, indicating that Ingle and his crew will spend the Christmas holidays in the sunny clime.

Once featured with Ted Weems' band, Ingle launched his own combo in mid-1947 and clicked from the start with his "Temptation" waxing, which featured Jo Stafford as singer. Capitol has just reissued the platter again.

Earl Carroll's Folds After 11 Hectic Years

An era in Hollywood night life came to an end last month when the Earl Carroll Theater-Restaurant closed its doors, throwing about 150 persons out of work.

But it is expected that the flashy nitery, which had been operating at a loss since Carroll died in an air crash in 1948, will reopen in December under new management.

The spot opened on Christmas night, 1938, with Willie Howard as the star. At various times Yvonne DeCarlo, Jean Wallace and the late Beryl Wallace were featured in the gaudy, ornate girlie shows which Carroll presented. It now looks as if Lou Walters, who operates the Latin Quarter in New York, will take over if the courts approve his offer to the Carroll estate. He has agreed to pay \$75,000 a year or 5 per cent of the receipts on a 10-year lease.

RKO Pages Norvo

Red Norvo and his combo are being set for a spot in a forthcoming RKO feature which will star Claudette Colbert. The vibes champ has been playing in N. Y.

During the war, the spot was one of the most profitable in the nation. But since Carroll's passing its patronage steadily decreased.

Mocambo, Ciro's Biz is Booming

With the nitery biz fluctuating erratically in Hollywood, the two main rivals in the "plushy" Sunset strip area, Ciro's and Mocambo, are waging a stirring battle for patronage.

Mocambo, operated by Charley Morrison, took a leaf from New York's Billy Rose and hired 15 violin players shortly before Vic Damone opened. The fiddlers are led by Harold Stern.

Ciro's countered with Sophie Tucker, and soon will present Janet Blair and the Blackburn Twins, who have been setting all sorts of theater and cafe marks in the east.

Berg On Tap At Kid Ory's Nitery

Billy Berg has returned to the nitery field, in Hollywood, as manager of Kid Ory's "new" club on Vine near Sunset. Berg, who doesn't own the bistro, is operating it with Ory's Creole band as the lure. The site formerly was the Gag Club and before that, Wingy Manone tried running it, unsuccessfully.

Ory, the New Orleans jazz pioneer, fronts his group with trombone. Others include Joe Darensbourg, clarinet; Ted Buckner, trumpet; Lloyd Glenn, piano; Ed Garland, bass; Minor Hall, drums.

Owner of the club—and the boss of both Ory and Berg—is Paul Kalmanowitz, who owns several other niteries in Los Angeles. Ory left his steady job at the Beverly Cavern to accept his new spot.

Four New Tunes In 'Petty' Movie

Johnny Mercer and Harold Arlen have completed four new songs to be featured in Columbia's "The Petty Girl" film, which will star Joan Caulfield. Titles include "Fancy Free," "Calypso," "I Loves Ya" and the title tune.



ALL TUCKERED OUT after working five shows, Frankie (Sugar Chile) Robinson sneaks a catnap while on tour. His home is in Detroit, and a tutor travels with him so his education won't be neglected. Sugar Chile has been playing professionally since he was 4, but it was just last August that his first record ("Numbers Boogie") came out and proved a fat success.

Lee Joining Crosby For 'Music' Flicker

Although she's appeared in shorts and special features before, Peggy Lee has never had a spot in a big-budget motion picture. This month, for the first time, she will have her chance when she checks in at Paramount to do scenes with Bing Crosby, Ruth Hussey, Charles Coburn and other cinema stars in "Mr. Music," Bing's latest, which Richard Hayden will direct for Producer Robert Welch.

Welch also has lined up other stars of the entertainment world for the pic, including Dorothy Kirsten, Hannah Williams (who was the Peggy Lee of the 1920s before she married Jack Dempsey), the Merry Macs, vocal combo with which Crosby has worked frequently in years past, and possibly Groucho Marx.

Harry James also was asked to appear, but was unable to.

Songs by Johnny Burke and Jimmy Van Heusen are completed and Buddy Cole will be featured on the soundtrack, at the piano, throughout the picture.

Marge and Gower Champion, dancers, also are signed.

Peggy, who was paid \$1,000 to do one tune on the Ed Wynn CBS

television show in October, was forced to cancel her November engagement at the Thunderbird in Las Vegas. She will appear there later, after finishing her work with Crosby.

Also keeping the blonde singer busy are guest shots with Crosby on his CBS radio show and regular record dates for Capitol. Pete Rugolo will be the leader of the band backing her on several forthcoming platters. He also wrote the arrangements.

Peg has eyes for composing another hit tune, too. Her last smash was "Manana," which followed "It's a Great Day." But first she wants to get the film with Bing canned; that's her number one project for November.



PEGGY LEE becomes a Paramount film star this month when she makes "Mr. Music" with Bing Crosby. It's a film, heavy on music, and loaded with big name entertainers.

Ford To Sponsor Kay Kyser Show

Kay Kyser's "College of Musical Knowledge" will be seen on television from New York starting in November and will be sponsored by Ford dealers; other cities away from the coax cable will telecast the quiz show by kinescope.



STRINGS are in focus on this Otto Rothschild shot of a recent Gordon MacRae record date for Capitol with Paul Weston (left) swinging the baton. This was the session which produced Gordie's newest click, "The Prairie Is Still." Mac also is finishing work in Warner Brothers' pic, "The Daughter of Rosie O'Grady."

Max Steiner OK's Wax Pact

He Has Composed For 208 Movies

The great music of Max Steiner will soon be heard on records.

Long famous, here and in foreign lands, for his superb music on motion picture soundtracks, Steiner has been regarded, since 1929, as the most talented composer in pictures.

Has 208 Music Credits

Three times Steiner has won the Academy award, in 1946 for "Since You Went Away," in 1943 with "Now, Voyager" and in 1935 with "The Informer" music.

A familiar figure out at the monstrous Warner Brothers plant in Burbank, just over a small hill from the heart of Hollywood, Steiner doesn't recall how many scores he has conceived for films. But Warners does; the studio's publicity department checked up and revealed to the Cap News that his latest, "Beyond the Forest," marks his 208th score, probably the most music ever written for celluloid, as well as much of the best.

'Gone With Wind' His

Steiner won the prized Golden Globe a couple of years back for his "Life With Father" original music. The trophy is presented by the Foreign Correspondents Association. And throughout the world there are Steiner fanatics who have, for two decades, hoarded and hidden away preciously rare recorded transcriptions of his music, deviously obtained from bootlegged soundtracks. David Rose is one of those. His collection of Steiner's film music is perhaps the most complete of any collector's, going back to "She" and other classics which were born when sound was a novelty in movie houses.



MAX STEINER, whose original music for scores of top-calibre motion pictures has brought him three Academy awards, and recognition from all over the world, is shown conceiving music for the new Warner Brothers "Beyond the Forest" drama which stars Bette Davis and Joseph Cotten. Steiner's most famous works will soon be presented, for the first time on records, by Capitol.

Unquestionably the most popular music Steiner ever clefled was for the MGM-Selznick version of the late Margaret Mitchell's best-selling novel, "Gone With the Wind." His Tara theme has been played at thousands of concerts since, and several dance bands have featured the melody.

Born in Vienna, he first came to California in 1929, under contract to the old RKO Studios. His early years produced "Bird of Paradise," "Morning Glory," "The Lost Patrol," "Little Women," "The Informer" and "Of Human Bondage."

More recently, the gifted little man who looks more like a pharmacist than a composer has contributed music for "The Life of Emile Zola," "Dawn Patrol,"

"Charge of the Light Brigade," "The Magic Bullet," "The Old Maid," "Sergeant York," "In This Our Life," "Top Hat," "Roberta," "Tovarich," "One Foot in Heaven," "Saratoga Trunk," "Tomorrow Is Forever," "Arsenic and Old Lace," "Since You Went Away," "My Wild Irish Rose," "Key Largo," "Adventures of Don Juan" and now, "Beyond the Forest."

Capitol's plans are to feature Steiner's original music from several of his best-known scores for movies, performed by a large, symphony-style orchestra comprised of the musicians who make the soundtracks, men with whom Steiner is familiar.

Steiner's works have never been recorded before, except for sporadic themes.

Flannery, Walker Next Sage Stars?

Both Are Making Start On Discs

By LEE GILLETTE



A new voice has come from out of the mighty Middlewest.

Only 20, Bob Flannery's talents are in a class with the top western stars of today. Capitol is introducing his exciting way with a song on two potential hits from one of the nation's best folk song composers, Jenny Lou Carson. It was she who clefled "Jealous Heart," "Never Trust a Woman" and "You Two-Timed Me Once Too Often."

Watch for Flannery's versions of "Revenge" and "Won't You Come Into My Heart." A star is born!

BOB FLANNERY, one of the newest of the western singing stars to sign as a Capitol artist, was recently welcomed to the "Grand Ole Opry" radio show by (left to right) Red Foley, Hank Williams and Wally Fowler. Lee Gillette tells more about the western scene in the adjoining columns.

Cactus Soldi. Joaquin Murphy, Pedro DePaul, Johnny Weis and Warren Penniman.

Billy Walker Unmasked

Down Texas way a masked cowboy has been singing his way into the hearts of thousands recently. And now, since signing with Cap, he's a cinch for nationwide popularity. Billed as the "Travelin' Texan," he was unmasked and introduced by his real name . . . Billy Walker. And he's a prolific composer as well; most of the songs recorded by him in Dallas last month were his own. Billy will soon be travelin' a lot farther than Texas!

"Humpty Dumpty" Hank Thompson began a new series of radio shows at KRLD in Dallas

and is airing his Texas drawl every 6:15 a.m. Or, you can give a listen to his platters on Al Turner's KLIF shows or Johnny Hicks' KRLD Hillbilly Hit Parade.

Proud papa: Merle Travis. Expecting: Tennessee Ernie, Eddie Kirk and Cliffie Stone. Result: They're all teamed on one nifty Cap platter of "Philosophy" and "Blues Stay Away from Me."

ON TOUR: Ann Jones, whose "Give Me a Hundred Reasons" is still a hot item, and whose "Post Office" looks like her next hit. . . . Tex Ritter, who knocked 'em dead at the Michigan State Fair. . . . Tommy Duncan, whose "Gambling Polka Dot Blues" is being aped by several copy-cats in the record field.

Stafford Hits!



"Red River Valley"

Capitol No. 57-742

"The Last Mile Home"

Capitol No. 57-710

"Whispering Hope"

... with Gordon MacRae

Capitol No. 57-690

Garber Hits!



"Jealous Heart" and "The Hop-Scotch Polka"

Capitol No. 57-759

"You're Breaking My Heart"

Capitol No. 57-719

Tormé Hits!



"There's a Broken Heart for Every Light on Broadway" and "Oh, You Beautiful Doll"

Capitol No. 57-751

"The Meadows of Heaven"

Capitol No. 57-743

Chuck Thomas Hit!



"My Gee Gee from the Fiji Isles" and "Rose of the Rio Grande" Capitol No. 57-746
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MacRae HITS!

"The Prairie Is Still" Capitol No. 57-755

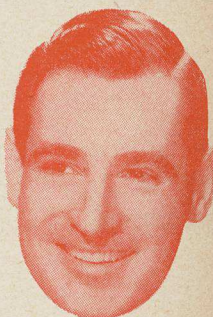
"I Want You to Want Me (to Want You)"
Capitol No. 57-723



Benny Strong HITS!

"Dear Hearts and Gentle People" Capitol No. 57-757

"I Never See Maggie Alone" Capitol No. 57-750



Ray Anthony HITS!

"Bye Bye Baby"
and "A Dreamer's Holiday" Capitol No. 57-761

"Yesterdays" Capitol No. 57-734

"Slider" Capitol No. 57-721



King Cole HITS!

"Here Is My Heart, Nalani" Capitol No. 57-749

"Land of Love" Capitol No. 57-716

Spin all ten
at your Record Dealer's



FIRST WITH THE HITS FROM HOLLYWOOD!

Cole: The Busiest Guy in Music?

He's Tops For Air, Pix, Wax

The most active, the busiest musician west of Chicago — maybe in the entire United States — is a California blond who got his start at 13 pounding a piano in a silent movie house and who hasn't had a day of leisure since.

Buddy Cole is featured on three network programs every week, and a fourth—which is all the musicians' union allows—will start this month. He has just wound up work in four major motion pictures, and all at different studios for different producers. And he's doing more record sessions than any other pianist in America plus frequent appearances, at the Steinway, on television.

Married His Boss's Singer

Cole is that rarity, a native Los Angeleno. When he was 13 he begged for the job of accompanying silent movies at the old Figueroa Theater and held it for four years. When he wasn't down in the pit he was out gigging with dance bands.

Eventually, in the 1930s, he worked up to the Frankie Trumbauer orchestra. And then, to the new Alvino Rey unit, which featured the four beautiful singing King Sisters. Buddy picked off the baby of the group and married her, and now Yvonne Cole (see photo) is the mother of Tina and Cathy Cole, who indicate that they'll grow up to be musically gifted, too.

Will Be Seen In 'Holiday'

Cole has played on the soundtracks of a hundred or more films, he estimates. But he's particularly proud of the new Ron Alcorn production of "Johnny Holiday" which will feature Hoagy Carmichael and Bill Bendix.



BUDDY COLE is the envy of Los Angeles' 15,000 professional musicians. He's all booked for radio, records, films and any other jobs coming up requiring a piano or organ. Shown at the keyboard, Cole accompanies his wife, the former Yvonne King, at their home recording studios. They have two daughters.

chael and Bill Bendix. Hoagy and Alcorn flew Cole all the way to Plainfield, Ind., for location work. Then they filmed Cole accompanying a Plainfield choir in a scene which is the high spot of the production.

Buddy didn't quite know what to do—he's always been behind the cameras. Like the just-completed "Young Man With a Horn" production. Buddy pounds the keyboard all the way through the story of the ill-fated, misunderstood trumpeter. Top jazzmen like Harry James, Corky Corcoran, Nick Fatool, Artie Bernstein, Archie Rosate and Jimmy Zito also are heard on the soundtrack.

Doubles As A Clown

Or Bing Crosby's newest, "Mr. Music." Buddy plays all 11 songs in the flicker. He's also heard in the unreleased musical which co-stars Betty Hutton and Fred Astaire, "Let's Dance."

Radio? Cole plays every week

on the Bing Crosby CBS stanza, with "Fibber and Molly" on NBC and also on the same net's "Truth or Consequences." On that one, Buddy is on organ, and, in his own words, "doubling as clown."

At his home in the Valley, just outside Hollywood, Buddy has his own mammoth pipe organ, piano and recording studio. His studio is so well-equipped that major recording companies actually rent it for sessions. It's a neat arrangement—a huge swimming pool lies 20 feet from the studio entrance.

Men like Art Tatum frequently spend the night with the Coles, playing and recording for their own kicks until dawn.

You never know when you're hearing Cole on a record. Take the Mag Whiting - Jim Wakely "Slippin' Around" disc. That solo organ is by Buddy. "In fact," he says, "half the time I use a phony name on record labels. After all, I can't get a credit line on them all."



CELEBRATING the marriage of Pauline Byrns and Howard Hudson in Las Vegas are (seated) Clark Dennis, the bridegroom and the bride, both of whom are members of the singing Starlighters group. Behind them, Voyle Gilmore of Capitol Records and Herb Monte, Starlighters' personal manager, hoist the muscatel. The Starlighters have just returned from the Jo Stafford concert tour back east.

Monroe's Film Rolling; Raines Gets Fem Lead

The cameras started turning, in October, on schedule, as Vaughn Monroe reported to Republic Studios in the Valley for his big role in the Abe Lyman production of "Singing Guns."

There will be others in the picture, of course. Ella Raines snared the femme lead, reportedly after Patty Andrews of the singing Andrews Sisters declined it. And old-timer Walter Brennan and young Rod Cameron also will get big billing alongside Monroe.

Lyman acquired rights to use "Mule Train," a new song by Johnny Lange, Fred Glickman and May Heath, in the picture. But Monroe won't be a mere baritone in the story—he's acting, and his role calls for some two-fisted, rugged emoting. When the pic is finished—and at Republic they finish them fast—the man with the muscles in his voice, and his band, will return east pronto.

Palladium Books James

Next attraction at the Hollywood Palladium, following the current Tex Beneke stand, will be Harry James and his Music Makers, who have played the spot more times than any other band.

The Horn, with several new faces in his ensemble, will open Nov. 22. Marion Morgan, for several seasons' Harry's chirp, and now working as a single, made news in her own right in October when she married Sid Beller, former band manager who now is in the shoe business.

James and his wife, Betty Grable, hope to move into their new house in Calabasas, Cal., before Christmas.

The Palladium's board of directors elected Earl Vollmer, longtime Pally floor manager, head of the big dantery following the death of Maurice Cohen, general manager.



THERE'S A battle of music brewing in Hollywood as MGM and Paramount bid for talent to be featured in two big-budget musicals now shooting. Metro's entry is "Duchess From Idaho," and in addition to Van Johnson and Esther Williams, the stars, and Mel Torme and Lena Horne, the singers, the Lion has just signed Connie Haines to play the role of a canary with the dance band which Johnson conducts. It won't be anything new for Connie; a few years back she came out of Florida and became vocalist with both the Harry James and Tommy Dorsey orks.

Paramount's "Mr. Music" has Bing Crosby as the star. Dorothy Kirsten will be seen in it, along with Peggy Lee — see separate story in this issue — and several unbilled but highly popular other performers are to be "sneaked" into various scenes. In short, the long dry spell for tune-films seems ended. Warners and 20th-Fox also are making musicals this month.

The Mills Brothers opened at the Casbah Club, in L. A., on Oct. 27. They'll go to the Fairmont in San Francisco later in November and return to the Casbah for five weeks again starting Dec. 27.

Ciro's current attraction, to buck Vic Damone at Mocambo, is Sophie Tucker.

Andy and Della Russell moved east to the El Rancho Vegas, in Las Vegas, following their smash at Mocambo.

Rickey Jordan, 21-year-old "hot" singer who had a long run at Earl Carroll's in Hollywood a few seasons back, died in Salt Lake City following an engagement in Kansas City.



KITTY WHITE, a California singer who just recently popped out on the Capitol label as a soloist, will have her second biscuit out on the market in November when her version of Irving Berlin's "I'm Playing With Fire" is coupled with her own "Ooh, Wee." Kitty's voice has been heard on a hundred film soundtracks. But always as a "ghost" for someone else.

Bogart Pulling Hadda Brooks Out

Coming out of retirement after two years, Hadda Brooks, pianist and singer, will have a role in Humphrey Bogart's next starring film, "In a Lonely Place." She will face the cameras Dec. 1.



THOSE CLOSE to the Mad Mab, Charlie Barnet, will be clocking his new job as a partner of Carlos Gastel in the personal management field. For the Mab has disbanded his orchestra before—several times—and was never able to stay away from the bandstand longer than a month or two.

Barnet's band broke up Oct. 27 at the close of its run in Columbus at the Deshler-Wallick Hotel. Charlie will work with Gastel in lining up bookings, signing new talent and cruising in the blue Pacific in Gastel's new cruiser.

This month's front cover spots the recent accomplishments of five artists, Jimmy Wakely in the western field, Dean Martin among the male singers, Woody Herman as a modern jazz band leader, Frankie (Sugar Chile) Robinson for his blues caroling and Jan Garber, who is touring with his hotel ork.

All five, according to James B. Conkling of Capitol, are currently riding high with hit records.

Benny Goodman's handlers have been setting up a tour which, unless there are last-minute changes, will take him to the Philippines in mid-November. En route, he will perform in Hawaii.

Frankie Laine will do a concert in Los Angeles for Gene Norman in early December. Frankie's been working in San Francisco following his run at the Bowery in Detroit.

Singing stars of new live musical, "A La Carte," which opens at the El Capitan Theater in Hollywood Nov. 16, will be Gale Robbins and Bill Shirley. Vic Young and Eddie Heyman turned out 18 songs for the revue.

Carl Brisson was slated to open at the Coconut Grove Nov. 1 following Dick Haymes, who, substituting for the ailing Carmen Miranda, himself keeled over after two weeks. Haymes, doubling on the "Club 15" airshow,

was said to be exhausted and various singers leaped in to sub for him. The Grove's schedule also calls for a Dec. 13 to Jan. 22 engagement of the "Salute to Cole Porter" pageant with Bill Heathcock's band — or possibly Skitch Henderson's—on the stand. The Grove hasn't yet made up its mind.

Jack (Happy Boy) Smith completed work as narrator of Ralph Staub's Columbia short, "Disc Jockeys, U. S. A." It will be released on Christmas day. Film features 38 wax-spinners, but even more unusual is the fact that Smith doesn't sing a note.

The Jacque Cascales Trio is being featured on the new Ben Gage TV show over KTTV. Gage presents the program directly from the suburban eatery he and his wife, Esther Williams, recently purchased.

MEET THE JOCKEY!

JOHN SAVAGE is strictly a longhair at heart, but he programs the pop wax on his "Musical Clock" and "Disc Date" shows every day over New York's WNYC. Now 27, John is about as far from his home bailiwick as he



can get. He's a native of Los Angeles, went to UCLA and has done hitchhikes at stations in Asbury Park, N. J., Worcester, Mass., and WQXR, New York, before swinging over to WNYC. He also has three years in the merchant marine to his credit.

WHOO'S WHERE

Dixie Jubilee Rated Best Jazz Bash Yet

Plans for a third annual Dixieland Jubilee to be held in the fall of 1950 in Los Angeles already are being blueprinted by Los Angeles radio jocks Frank Bull and Gene Norman, who admittedly were astounded at the turnout of more than 6,600 cash customers for the Oct. 7 Jubilee at Shrine Auditorium in L. A.

Bud And Muggsy Not Impressive

"It was the most profitable concert I've ever had anything to do with," Norman said after counting the box-office receipts. It was so great, in fact, that for the first time in his three years of producing concerts—including Stan Kenton at the Hollywood Bowl, Billy Eckstine and other top attractions—Norman refused to divulge the actual gross.

Bud Freeman and Muggsy Spanier, who flew in from Chicago to headline the show, proved disappointing. Neither got going. Pete Daily's Chicagoans were not up to par as they twin-beated "South" and other standards without a bass. But on the whole, the Jubilee shaped up as a night of extreme success and intense excitement.

Nichols Solo A Masterpiece

A comparatively unknown band from Portland, the Castle Jazz group led by Monte Ballou, gained hysterical mitt-pounding along with the red-shirted Firehouse Five Plus Two and Kid Ory's Creoles. Eddie Miller's tenor sparked the Bobcats. Red Nichols' subtle soloing on "Singin' the Blues" climaxed another set which, artistically at least, proved memorable.

The Shrine, which holds 2,000 persons more than New York's Carnegie Hall, was swaying when Zutty Singleton led some 60 musicians off the big stage and down the aisles in a weaving parade some 40 minutes past midnight.

Joe Venuti The Only "No Show"

Participating, too, were men like Benny Pollack, Charlie LaVere, Matty Matlock (who arranged and conducted for the entire assemblage of 60), Mannie Klein, George Van Eps, Nappy Lamare, Nick Fatool, Andy Secrest, Joe Yukl, Joe Rushton and scores more. Only Joe Venuti failed to show up.

It was strictly a one-shot deal, all the jazzmen having been assembled by Bull and Norman for the one night.

DIXIE JUBILEE jazzmen, 60 strong, are shown downstage at the Los Angeles Shrine Auditorium blowing "South Rampart Street Parade" as the climax of a one-night bash which attracted more than 6,600 patrons—a virtual sellout.

HENRY KING: Hotel Biltmore.
 PETE DAILY: Sardi's Monkey Room.
 RED NICHOLS: Hangover Club.
 KID ORY: Kid Ory's Club.
 TEX BENEKE: Palladium.
 HARRY JAMES: Palladium, opening Nov. 22.
 MARVIN JOHNSON: York Club.
 CARL BRISSON: Coconut Grove.
 ZUTTY SINGLETON: Club 47.
 TEX WILLIAMS: Riverside Rancho.
 EDDIE OLIVER: Beverly Hills Hotel.
 ARTHUR VAN: Colonial Ballroom.
 SIGMUND SCHATZ: Bublichki.
 LES PARKER: Larry Potter's Club.
 LOU FIDLER: Bar of Music.
 JIMMY RANDALL: Oasis.
 AARON GONZALES: Italian Village.
 HAROLD STERN: Mocambo.

MEET THE JOCKEY!

HAL BARTON is a special events ace who airs daily over WTAD in Quincy, Ill. But he draws his biggest mail from his disc shows, "Off the Record," "Syn-copation Time" and "Coffee Time." No babe at the mike, Hal has been in radio since the mid-1930s and in addition to his platter programs, he's heard with a listenable "Man on the Street" broadcast. The spot on the dial for Hal is 930.



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Back On Mike Again



RETURNING TO records after a summer hiatus from shellac, June Christy is pictured, in Capitol's Hollywood studios, plattering a new side featuring a string ensemble and rhythm conducted by Pete Rugolo. That's Rugey waving his arms in a new fly plaid single-breaster as June, hand on hip, pulls out from the mike on a high note. June and Pete will both be back with Stan Kenton this month as he starts rehearsals of his new 40-piece ork.